

Water Cycle Online Exploration

USGS/FAO Interactive Diagram

<http://water.usgs.gov/edu/watercycle-kids-adv.html>

Objectives: Through exploration of the USGS/FAO Interactive Water Cycle Diagram, students will be able to describe the components of the global water cycle and their functions. Students will be able to predict how changes to water cycle components would affect the Earth system.

Directions:

1. **Access** the USGS/FAO Interactive Water Cycle Diagram using the link above.
2. **Explore** the components (words in boxes on diagram) of the water cycle by moving your mouse over the component names.
3. In your notebook, ***write down each component name followed by a brief description*** of its overall function within the water cycle. For example:
 - a. **"Oceans:** largest reservoir of water on Earth (>96%), 90% of water in atmosphere comes from evaporation of ocean water; ocean currents transport water all around the globe.
Overall function within water cycle: evaporation of water into atmosphere, transportation of water."
4. Write down any questions you have after reading about a component, and use links provided to explore each topic further. I would like to incorporate your questions into a future lesson, so ***please have at least ten questions compiled*** from this activity.